

Earth Sunday, April 21, 2024

First Presbyterian Church of Dunedin

Sanctuary Worship, 10:30 a.m.

Celebration



of God's love, justice, and peace in creation, in others and in ourselves.

***Hymn 2061 – Creator of Mountains**

in Sing the Faith

***Opening Sentences**

Donna Lewallen, Liturgist

We walk in wonder beneath the sun and stars

Creation is God's masterpiece, and we are blessed to share it.

We give thanks for the air, the land, and the water

and for all the creatures joined together in the web of life

Beauty is before us, around us, over us and beneath us

We join our hearts, minds, and spirits as one in thanks and awe.

Hymn 267 – All Things Bright and Beautiful

in The Presbyterian Hymnal

Sharing Our Stories

***Doxology 591**

in The Presbyterian Hymnal

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Christ all creatures here below;

Praise Holy Spirit evermore;

Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

Discovery

of God's love, justice, and peace in creation, in others and in ourselves.

Prayer for Understanding

Spirit of resurrecting Truth, roll away any assumptions

that block our understanding of the Easter story.

Open our minds and hearts to receive the Good News that Christ is risen indeed.

Change our lives with this gift. Alleluia! Amen.

New Testament Reading – Genesis 11:1-9

Pew Bible, page 8

The Word of the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

Choral Response – Tree Song

Medema/Sterling

Gospel Reading – John 10:1-10

Pew Bible, page 872

The Gospel of the Lord! **Praise to You, O Christ!**

Sermon

Rev. Dr. David K. Shelor

***Hymn 2060 – God the Sculptor of the Mountains**

in Sing the Faith

***Covenant of Healing** *from the Creation Care Team, UCC, Wisconsin Conference*

Today we join in a renewal of our covenant with God and with one another.

Standing together as followers of Jesus,

we commit ourselves to the healing and protection of God's creation.

We commit to stand against all threats to life, and to resist all powers that would destroy it.

We commit to the discovery of some new beauty every day in God's creation:

the sunrise and the sunset, the birds, flowers, trees, rainbows, stars,

and the many forms of life that inhabit the earth.

We commit to listen to the animals as they try to teach us, the birds as they try to tell us,

the plants of the earth and the fish of the sea

as they declare to us their message of hope and healing for the world.

We will remember always that God speaks to us through the beauty of God's good creation,

and we will try our best to answer God's call to revere all that God has created.

May we, together with people everywhere,

awaken and begin to co-create the foundation of a new world

so that the future of all life on our planet and the future of human lifeways

can be protected and healed.

Prayers of the People

Sung Prayer Refrain 2157 - Come and Fill our Hearts

in Sing the Faith

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You alone, O Lord, are holy.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace, Alleluia!

The Lord's Prayer

p. 16, at the front of The Presbyterian Hymnal

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Musical Response – This is My Father's World

Sue Pate, Flute & Donna Lewallen, Piano

Action

for God's love, justice, and peace in creation, in others and in ourselves.

Call - We invite you to consider the ways you are called to serve each focus this week.

to creation

to others

to self

***Hymn 268 – God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens**

in The Presbyterian Hymnal

***Benediction**

***Time of Greeting**

Thank you for worshipping with us today!

You are invited to share in a time of fellowship and refreshment.

Please join us now in Hager Hall. All are welcome!